J.R. Simplot Company
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208 235-5600 Business

March 30, 2020

Arthur Burbank
USDA Forest Service
4350 South Cliffs Dr.
Pocatello, ID 83204

Subject: Biological Selenium Removal Treatment Technology
Water Treatment Pilot Study
February 2020 Progress Report

Dear Art,

This progress report summarizes key activities in February 2020 associated with Phase 2 of the Water Treatment Pilot Study located near Hoopes Spring. This Pilot Study is being conducted as part of the Smoky Canyon Mine Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to provide information on the effectiveness of the active biological treatment system in removing selenium and other COPCs from South Fork Sage Creek Springs and Hoopes Spring.

Work related to the approved Phase 2 Pilot Study continues at the site in accordance with the Final *Phase 2 Pilot Study Work Plan and Sampling and Analysis Plan, Ultra-Filtration/Reverse Osmosis and Biological Selenium Removal Fluidized Bed Bioreactor Treatment Technology* (Phase 2 WP/SAP).

Identification of Deliverables and Data Transmittals

There were no outstanding deliverables or transmittals for the month of February. At the time of this report, we have received laboratory data for Weeks 103 and 105. Preliminary laboratory data are presented in Table 1. The field data for the Weeks 103 and 105 sampling events is summarized in Table 2.

Completed Activities

The following activities associated with the Phase 2 Pilot Study were completed in February 2020:

- Continued system operation and treatment of selenium.

The Treatment System Pilot (TSP) influent total selenium concentration for Week 103 was 172 ug/L and Week 105 was 182 ug/L. The Treatment System Pilot effluent total selenium concentration for Week 103 was 24.8 ug/L and Week 105 was 35.6 ug/L. The average removal efficiency for February was approximately 82.5% for total selenium removal.

The average flow of the TSP for the month of February was 1,352 gpm. Since full scale operations began in early December 2017 approximately 1.811 billion gallons of impacted water has been treated. The mass of selenium removed from December 2017 through February 2020 is approximately 1,874 pounds.

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Upcoming Activities

The following activities associated with the Phase 2 Pilot Study are planned through March 2020:

- Continue system monitoring in accordance with the sampling and analysis plan.

Please contact me if there are questions regarding this monthly progress report.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hamilton
Environmental Engineer

cc:

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Table 1
Laboratory Results Focused Analyte List

		Week 103			Week 105		
Station >>		Influent	Ultra Filtration Backwash	Effluent	Influent	Ultra Filtration Backwash	Effluent
Sample ID >>		SC0220-LSSHS-IN001	SC0220-LSSHS-UFB001	SC0220-LSSHS-EF001	SC0220-LSSHS-IN002	SC0220-LSSHS-UFB002	SC0220-LSSHS-EF002
Date >>		2/5/2020			2/19/2020		
Analyte	**Units**						
General Chemistry							
Ammonia, as N	mg/L	0.026 U	0.026 U	0.026 U	0.026 U	0.026 U	0.0464
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	mg/L	2 U	2 U	2 U	2 U	2 U	2 U
TSS	mg/L	2 U	2 U	2 U	2 U	2 U	2 U
Nutrients							
Nitrate, as N	mg/L	0.5	0.2	0.48	0.47	0 21	0.37
Sulfide	mg/L	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U	1 U
Phosphorus, Total	mg/L	0.0538	0.0836	0.131	0.0297	0.0591	0 323
Metals and Metalloids							
Selenium, Dissolved	mg/L	0.178	0.0589	0 026	0.18	0.0306	0.0346
Selenium, Total	mg/L	0.172	0.0593	0.0248	0.182	0.0314	0.0356

Notes

Results presented are preliminary, and have not been validated at the time of this report.

U - Analyte not detected above the method detection limit (MDL).

J - Result is estimated.

Table 2
Field Water Quality Data

Hoopes Springs Water Treatment Plant Pilot Study
Phase 2, Performance Monitoring

		Parameter >>	Dissolved Oxygen	ORP	pH	SC	Temperature	Turbidity
		Units >>	mg/L	mV	SU	umhos/cm	C	NTU
Station	**Sample ID**	**Date**						
Week 103								
Influent	SC0220-LSSHS-IN001	2/5/2020	3.88	62	8.28	525	11.54	1.1
Ultra Filtration Backwash	SC0220-LSSHS-UFB001	2/5/2020	3.89	84	8.18	148	12.63	1.9
Effluent	SC0220-LSSHS-EF001	2/5/2020	4.56	69	8.27	523	11.93	0.9
Week 105								
Influent	SC0220-LSSHS-IN002	2/19/2020	8.17	126	7.65	512	12.76	0.6
Ultra Filtration Backwash	SC0220-LSSHS-UFB002	2/19/2020	7.12	724	7.64	166	13.2	1.6
Effluent	SC0220-LSSHS-EF002	2/19/2020	7.73	117	7.39	469	12.95	3.1

Notes: